

Final Report

UNESCO Consultation Meeting of Asian States Parties on the Periodic Reporting Exercise

13-15 March 2003, UNESCO Paris, France

Annex 2



Buddhist monument at Horyu-Ji, Japan

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Proceedings

Background

A UNESCO Consultation Meeting of Asian States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to prepare the “Synthesis Periodic Report for Asian World Cultural Heritage”, was organized by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, supported by the World Heritage Fund and the Japanese Funds-in-Trust, between 13-15 March 2003 in Paris, UNESCO Headquarters.

Representatives and site managers from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Vietnam, CRATerre, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO Division of Cultural Heritage participated.

Opening

The meeting was opened on Thursday 13 March 2003 with introductory remarks by the Director of the World Heritage Centre, Mr Francesco Bandarin, followed by Mr Tamas Fejerdy, Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, and by Ms Minja Yang, Deputy Director and Chief of the Cultural Heritage Section of the World Heritage Centre.

Two World Heritage Committee members, India, represented by H. E. Ms Neelam D. Sabharwal, and the Republic of Korea, represented by Mr. Kang Daesoo, made opening remarks. Thereafter, Mr Richard Engelhardt, Regional Adviser for Culture in the Asia-Pacific Region, presented a keynote speech on the expected results of the consultation meeting and the Periodic Reporting Exercise.

One of the expected results was to acknowledge commonalities and sub-regional variations of need / non-need, to redefine categories of assistance, and to develop pan Asian site management tools in combination with workplan follow-up activities. Attention was particularly drawn on generic management needs, both at national and site level.

Dealing more effectively with development pressures, especially the issue of buffer zone delimitations was another expected result of the meeting. Many States Parties also insisted on finding solutions to repeatedly identified technical assistance needs, such as enhanced GIS training, valorization of traditional conservation methods / materials and technical responses to new climatic threats affecting the World Heritage Sites.

Mr Feng Jing, from the World Heritage Centre, then made an introduction on the background and methodology of the meeting, as well as a short presentation of the Synthesis Periodic Report for Asian World Cultural Heritage.



The participants of the Regional Consultation meeting before the beginning of the Plenary session

Working Session I

The first working session was devoted to Section I of the Periodic Reports concerning the "Application of the World Heritage Convention at the national level". The participants broke up into 4 sub-regional working groups, each facilitated by the Secretariat, as follows:

West-Central Asia	South Asia	North-East Asia	South-East Asia
Afghanistan Iran Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan Tajikistan Turkmenistan Uzbekistan	Bangladesh Bhutan India Maldives Nepal Pakistan Sri Lanka	DPR of Korea Japan Mongolia PR of China Rep of Korea	Cambodia Indonesia Laos Malaysia Myanmar Philippines Thailand Vietnam

In the afternoon, conclusions and recommendations on Section I were formulated and agreed upon in the light of the morning debates. The results of each working group were then presented and agreed upon in plenary session.



The Deputy Director of the World Heritage Centre presenting the results of the working groups in the plenary session

Working Session II

The second working session dealt with Section II of the Periodic Report concerning the "State of Conservation of 55 Asian World Cultural Heritage Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List before of in 1994". The participants again broke up in the same four sub-regional groups (see table above).

In the afternoon, conclusions and recommendations on Section II were formulated and agreed upon in the light of the morning debates. The results of each working group were then presented and discussed in plenary session.



The West-Central Asian working group in action

Plenary Session

After a summary discussion, the conclusions and recommendations on Section II were finalized. A global discussion led to the adoption of Section I and II conclusions and recommendations for the Synthesis Periodic Report for Asian World Cultural Heritage.

Closing

Following the adoption of the conclusions and recommendations, the Chairperson invited the participants to attend the closing ceremony.

Closing remarks were given by World Heritage Committee members from Thailand, represented by Ms Janya Manavid. and the People's Republic of China, represented by Mr Guo Zhan. Mr Richard Engelhardt, Regional Adviser for Culture in the Asia-Pacific Region, presented its conclusions on the positive results of the consultation meeting. Ms Minja Yang, Deputy Director and Chief of the Cultural Heritage Section of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, then called the meeting to an end.

Section I

West-Central Asian Recommendations for Cultural Heritage

1.2. Identification of cultural and natural heritage

1.2.a. Status of national inventories and heritage legislation

- Revision and/updating of national inventories
- Improvement of legislation to adequately integrate the identification of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and natural heritage

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Harmonize existing criteria for national properties with criteria of World Heritage Convention through the modification of national legislation as appropriate.
- ▶ Conduct the first necessary studies, develop and publish the revised national and local inventories of cultural properties.
- ▶ Develop pilot projects to elaborate databases, beginning with potential Tentative List WH properties at regional level.

Types of assistance needed: Assistance from the WH Fund or other international co-operation would be highly appreciated.

1.2.b. The preparation of Tentative Lists:

- Revision and updating of the Tentative List

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Finalize the identification of potential WH properties (cultural and mixed) and elaboration of the national Tentative List.
- ▶ Official submission to UNESCO WHC of the revised/updated Tentative List.

Types of assistance needed: Preparatory assistance from the WH Fund as appropriate for the elaboration / revision of the national Tentative List.

1.2.c. Nominations and the nomination process:

- Capacity building for preparing complete and sound nomination dossiers, in particular for:

- identifying adequate and appropriate protective zones (core and buffer, as appropriate) of nominated or Tentative List properties based upon the identified world heritage values of the property.
- preparing adequate maps
- finalizing, approving, and commencing the implementation of a long term management plan for nominated / Tentative List properties, in particular for historic cities.
- ensuring adequate consultative process and information awareness at local and national level. In other words, how to better involve the local communities and concerned authorities on the nomination process to ensure long-term conservation and sustainable development of the Tentative List properties.

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Exchange of expertise at regional and international level and sharing know-how on "good practices" to be adaptively reused.
- ▶ Increase training activities to build the capacities of the authorities who prepare nomination dossiers and plan long term management of Tentative List properties at national, sub-regional and international level through:
 - (i) regional co-operation with the support of international co-operation, and in particular from UNESCO, ICOMOS and ICCROM.
 - (ii) gradual establishment of a "regional network of experts" or "pool of experts"
- ▶ During the March 2003 Consultation Meeting, the Government of Kazakhstan invited the sub-regional States Parties to participate in a capacity building training activity in Yasi Turkestan, a newly nominated property, to exchange experience on the nomination preparation and consultative process, as well as the conservation experience of the Mausoleum using new technologies for restoring the historic monument.
- ▶ Implement more rigorously, the Recommendations of the May 2000 UNESCO WHC Central Asian Cultural Heritage Global Strategy Meeting.

Types of assistance needed: Preparatory assistance from the WH Fund or other international or regional co-operation, as appropriate for transfer of technical knowledge for methodology and process

I.3. Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

I.3.a. Integration of heritage conservation within the general development planning policy:

- Integrate more rigorously heritage conservation of Tentative and WH List properties into future planning programmes.

Proposed future actions:

- Establish better co-operation between the different responsible agencies and organizations.

I.3.b. Participation of local communities:

- Strengthen the capacity and increase the number of government agencies and professional organizations in the field of protection, management, conservation and sustainable tourism development of cultural heritage.

Proposed future actions:

- Gradually improve the professional staffing and financial support of the existing agencies.
- Identify the needs and priorities in the creation of other agencies for the protection, management, conservation and sustainable tourism development of cultural heritage as appropriate.
- Organize training activities bringing together tour operators and cultural heritage experts.
- Increase on-site training activities which address specific conservation needs of the sub-region, identified during the 2000 UNESCO Central Asian Cultural Heritage Global Strategy Meeting, and those falling within the Central Asian Earth 2002-2012 Programme.

Types of assistance needed: International co-operation and WH Fund assistance as appropriate, including:

- grants for equipment for enhanced application of monitoring systems and conservation techniques
- grants for organizing training activities
- professional training for cultural heritage tourism

I.3.c. Tourism development:

- Enhancement of scientific and technical studies contributing in the further process of identification of potential WH properties and better understanding their heritage values.

Types of assistance needed: Increased support to historical, archaeological, ethnographical studies and

surveys in different geographical and ethno-cultural regions.

I.3.d. Financial measures (improvements therein):

- Strengthen, amend and harmonize heritage protective legislation as appropriate to increase cultural heritage conservation.
- Strengthen the protection and management of nominated properties and Tentative List properties.

Proposed future actions:

- Draft relevant revisions of laws and regulations.
- Legally delimit territories, establish protective zones and mechanisms, develop management plans for Tentative List properties.

I.3.e. Professional (capacity building and training needs):

- Enhanced organization of professional training in management and conservation of cultural heritage at a regional level.
- Better understanding of the notion of protecting cultural landscapes, with direct reference to how to adequately monitor and manage such cultural / mixed heritage properties.

Proposed future actions:

- Organize UNESCO regional training courses / activities on the management and conservation of earthen architecture, archaeological sites, historic cities, monuments and cultural landscapes.
- Increase capacity building activities which have multiplier effects, such as training of craftsmanship for building material and conservation practices (tiles, brick, decoration, wall painting, etc.)
- Initiate and develop a high education for conservation using the facilities and capacities of existing institutions.

Types of assistance needed: WH Fund, UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOMOS and international co-operation as appropriate with national input for:

- (a) developing training courses / activities
- (b) organizing / holding training courses / activities

I.4. International co-operation and fund raising

- Enhance the exchange of experience and co-operation between experts and organizations of West-Central Asian countries on the protection and conservation of cultural heritage.

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section I

- Build capacity to effectively mobilize international co-operation to address urgent conservation, management and development issues facing WH and potential WH properties.

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Participate actively in the Central Asian Earth 2002-2012 Programme.
- ▶ Organize training activities, especially at site-level activities which involve participation of regional experts.
- ▶ Enhance information exchange at national, sub-regional and international level on various types of assistance available, and the modalities and procedures for effectively mobilizing international co-operation in a timely manner.

1.5. Education, information and awareness-building

- Introduce and continue programmes for teaching cultural heritage at schools
- Organize and increase publications on cultural heritage

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Develop pilot teaching programmes for schools, or in the case where such programmes already exist, continue the programmes integrating the World Heritage education material as appropriate
- ▶ Prepare and publish visitor maps, guidebooks and general information on Tentative List and WH properties, especially targeting large audiences and local communities where such heritage is located (eg. Central Asian cultural heritage Website to be updated regularly).

South Asian Recommendations for Cultural Heritage

I.2. Identification of cultural and natural heritage

► It is recommended that a National Inventory be developed based on specific thematic issues which reflect socio-cultural issues of outstanding universal significance (for example: thematic issue of non violence in South Asia).

► It is recommended that after the identification of the site as a World Heritage Property, the possibility of applying other UNESCO instruments for the protection of cultural heritage should be examined, such as the "Memory of the World Programme for documentary heritage" and "Proclamation of the master pieces of oral and intangible heritage of humankind".

I.3. Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

I.3.a. Integration of heritage conservation within the general development planning policy:

► It is recommended that prior to undertaking infrastructure development in and around a WHSite it should be mandatory to do a cultural impact assessment for which new protocols and methods should be developed with the assistance of the WH Centre.

► It is recommended that this process of undertaking a cultural impact assessment of World Heritage Sites should establish models and set precedents for the undertaking of similar cultural impact assessments to protect all heritage sites.

I.3.b Legislation:

► It is recommended that all legislation relevant to heritage protection should be put into a searchable database.

I.3.c. Participation of local communities:

► It is recommended to make the formulation by national authorities of the required management plans in consultation with local community mandatory, prior to submission of the nomination dossier.

► It is recommended that traditional custodians of the World Heritage Properties be educated and trained in conservation and protection of these properties.

I.3.d. Tourism development:

► It is recommended that a plan for regulation/ control of tourism should be a prerequisite for inscription on WH Site Lists (this requires revision of operational guidelines which is currently under revision)

► It is recommended to study the sustainable tourism of Bhutan as a best practice management tool, in its articulation with other national development policies concerning cultural and natural heritage.

I.3.e. Financial measures and budget allowances:

► It is recommended to study the revenue collection of Sri Lanka which was launched in 1990 as a best practice management tool.

I.3.f. Professionals

► It is recommended for each State party to develop a database of professionals. This information could serve as a contribution to a global databank of experts to be managed and updated by the WH Centre.

► It is recommended that the WH Centre invest in sub-regional technical and training programs as each sub-region has its own training techniques and traditional materials.

► It is recommended that the WH Centre support the new UNESCO/ICCROM program for networking of universities in the region known as the Asian Academy of Cultural Heritage Management.

► It is recommended to train staff in modern technical tools such as GIS, non-destructive mapping and scientific advances in conservation.

► It is recommended to support advanced professional training in planning and heritage protection legislation.

I.4. International co-operation and fund raising:

► It is recommended that when State parties negotiate loans for infrastructure development, the World Heritage Centre should facilitate the package to include a part of funds for heritage conservation.

I.5. Education, information and awareness-building

► It is recommended that WH education be incorporated formally in the education curriculum.

► It is recommended that the WH Centre develop a site-specific testing system for the certification of World Heritage guides.

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section I

1.6. Conclusions

- ▶ It is recommended that interaction between States Parties of South Asia in terms of documentation, management, conservation and training be set up.
- ▶ It is recommended to organize an interim review each two years on a sub-regional basis. In conjunction with this, a sub-regional meeting of WH Site Managers should be convened every two years.

South-East Asian Recommendations for Cultural Heritage

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage

1.2.a. Status of national inventories and heritage legislation:

- Many States Parties do not have National Inventories; or need to revise or update them.
- There is a need for improvement of legislation to adequately integrate the identification of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and natural heritage

Proposed future actions:

► UNESCO to provide examples of definition of cultural heritage and national inventory formats gathered from various countries.

► Based on these examples, States Parties will elaborate their own definition and format; and Ministries of Culture would ask provincial authorities supported by university and research groups, to propose improved legislations for consideration by the central government.

Types of assistance needed: Assistance from WHFund, other international co-operation; UNESCO help in mobilizing financial and intellectual support.

1.2.b. The preparation of Tentative Lists:

- Tentative Lists needs updating after careful reflection taking into consideration broader and new understandings of heritage

Proposed future actions:

► UNESCO to provide good examples of Tentative List format and statements of significance.

► Finalize the identification of potential WH properties (cultural and mixed), elaborate the national Tentative Lists, and perhaps organize a SE Asian States Parties meeting to thematically review the new Tentative Lists.

► Official submission to UNESCO WHC of the revised/updated Tentative Lists.

► Preparatory assistance from the WH Fund as appropriate for the elaboration / revision of the national Tentative List.

1.2.c. Nominations and the nomination process:

- There is a need for capacity building for preparing complete and sound nomination dossiers, in particular for:

- (i) identifying core, buffer, and support zone as appropriate of nominated or Tentative List properties based upon the identified world heritage values of the property.
- (ii) preparing adequate maps
- (iii) consulting with local authorities and populations

Proposed future actions:

► Transmit good examples of management plans and nomination files to be posted on UNESCO website

► Carry out national workshops to share good examples and adaptively reuse.

► Exchange expertise at regional and international level to share know-how on "good practices" to be adaptively reused based on local considerations.

► Increase training activities to build the capacities of the authorities who prepare nomination dossiers and plan long term management of Tentative List properties, to prepare in advance the nomination files and management plans of the Tentative List sites.

Types of assistance needed: Preparatory assistance from the WH Fund or other international or regional co-operation, as appropriate for the transfer of technical knowledge for methodology and process

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

1.3.a. Integration of heritage conservation within the general development planning policy:

- There is a need for integration of core and peripheral WH zoning in comprehensive planning.
- There is a need to monitor all Official Development Assistance projects, which impact on WH sites and seek active involvement in the WH conservation process. For example, there is a need to examine how urban and rural infrastructure projects of World Bank, ADB and EU among other donors can be used to benefit urban and landscape conservation and development of buffer / support zones.
- There is a need to bolster community involvement in the WH conservation process, using examples such as the village contract in Luang Prabang.
- There is a need to study means of redirecting tourism revenue towards cultural heritage conservation

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section I

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Establish better co-operation between the different responsible agencies and organizations.
- ▶ Examine existing examples of inter-ministerial commissions at national level or inter-departmental commissions at local provincial level.
- ▶ States Parties should forward UNESCO examples of best practice in local community participation in heritage conservation.

▶ States Parties to send UNESCO statutes or contracts between government cultural agencies and tourism department or private companies to share amongst WH site management authorities for adaptive reuse. Examples such as ASPARA, Hue Conservation Centre, Borobudur for on ticketing could be useful, while other examples from outside the region on tourism/hotel/airport taxes etc to benefit heritage conservation may be of use.

Types of assistance needed: UNESCO support in participating in ODA programme planning missions. UNESCO to gather and disseminate good practice examples in UNESCO website and perhaps in publications. UNESCO to gather examples and post on website or made into publications.

I.3.b. Status of services for protection, conservation and preservation:

- There is a need to further examine and explore the feasibility of public-private co-operation for conservation and heritage related business development (APSARA model)

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Gather examples of different management authorities (statutes, terms of reference, etc).
- ▶ Gather examples of tourism facilities (visitors centres, souvenir shops, toilets, etc) for ideas on good and bad examples.

Types of assistance needed: International co-operation and WH Fund assistance as appropriate.

I.3.c. Scientific and technical studies and research

- There is a need for enhancement of scientific and technical studies.

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Organize university traineeships in ministries and local authorities.

Types of assistance needed: Request UNESCO to facilitate the process by developing format for request and application.

I.3.d. Measures for identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation:

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Promote cooperation between government bodies and universities/research institutions to evaluate legal and management frameworks, training programmes for management, skills upgrading etc.

I.3.e. Professionals:

- There is a need to promote professional training in management and conservation of cultural heritage at regional and international levels on a thematic basis.

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Organize UNESCO regional training courses / activities on the management and conservation of themes to be identified at national level and see how regional or international cooperation can support the national and local site needs.

▶ Increase capacity building activities, which have multiplier effects. Identify locations for on-the-job, on-site training (eg. urban conservation in Luang Prabang, mural painting in Pagan, archaeological research in My Son and Wat Phu and in other parts of the region).

Types of assistance needed: WH Fund, UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOMOS and international co-operation as appropriate with national input for developing training courses / activities, and organizing training courses.

I.4. International co-operation and fund raising

- Enhance the exchange of experience and co-operation between experts and organizations within the country (between sites); within the region (ASEAN, ASEF UNESCO etc) and internationally (ICCROM, bilateral scholarship opportunities etc).

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Gather information in a systematic way on opportunities offered at national level (universities, research or operational projects) to benefit others from the country; at regional and international levels.

Types of assistance needed: UNESCO to write circular letters to potential donors on needs; monitor ODA project grant and loan possibilities etc; provide seed funding from WH Fund to be used as catalytic fund to obtain additional funding.

1.5. Education, information and awareness-building

- Introduce and continue programmes for teaching cultural heritage at schools in formal education curricula and in informal education.
- Organize and increase publications on cultural heritage

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Develop pilot teaching programmes for schools, or in the case where such programmes already exist, continue the programmes integrating the World Heritage education material as appropriate
- ▶ Prepare and publish visitor maps, guidebooks and general information on Tentative List and WH properties, especially targeting large audiences and local communities where such heritage is located
- ▶ Find commercial publishers for mass publication of WH Education kit etc.

Types of assistance needed: WH Fund as seed money to generate more funding in a catalytic manner.

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section I

North East Asian Recommendations for Cultural Heritage

1.2. Identification of cultural and natural heritage

► To respond to the challenge of imbalance in the representativity of the World Heritage List as it affects to North-East Asia, it is recommended that research and study of heritage properties by category is necessary for the nomination and inscription of cultural properties.

► The temporary decision to limit the number of new nominations per year per country should be abandoned.

► Also, legal provision for the protection of the protective buffer zone should be provided at the national legislation. A clear definition/clarification should be made by the World Heritage Committee on the boundary and legal status of the nominated buffer zone, in particular in the Nomination Format (I. 2). This definition should be based on the types of heritage properties (cultural, natural or mixed), be precise and concise.

1.3. Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

1.3.a. Integration of heritage and planning:

► To be consistent with Article 5 of the World Heritage Convention, this group endorsed the Hanoi Workshop Recommendation 2 in which the States Parties recommend that the Committee should develop, for consideration in 2004, an action plan to:

- (i) ensure ongoing dialogue with international organizations, donor bodies, NGOs and individual experts;
- (ii) discuss the role of cultural and natural World Heritage in poverty alleviation projects;
- (iii) seek heritage conservation and management funding opportunities and increase awareness of the place of heritage in the social and economic lives of communities.

► As the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention continue to be revised, the World Heritage Committee should consider an explicit clause to ensure that, in making decisions on the conservation of natural and cultural World Heritage properties, it gives adequate and appropriate consideration to the potential impact of those decisions

on the social and economic livelihood of local and regional communities.

1.3.b. Tourism Development:

► Tourism planning should be put into the control of heritage management authorities. The tourism industry should provide inputs for the protection of heritage sites,

in particular those sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

1.3.c. Financial measures and budget allowances:

► In line with Article 17 of the Convention, the States Parties (Central and local authorities) should set aside special funds, in the budgets of public authorities, for the protection of the cultural and natural heritage endangered by large-scale public or private work.

► States Parties should take responsibility to establish a financial mechanism (Heritage Trust or Bond) to increase financial resources for the protection of heritage sites.

1.3.d. Professionals:

► A research programme on heritage conservation (methodology, best practices etc.) should be developed at the sub-regional level (sharing commonalities) or even regional level.

1.4. International co-operation and fund raising

► States Parties should take responsibility to establish a financial mechanism (Heritage Trust or Bond) to increase financial resources for the protection of heritage sites

1.5. Education, information and awareness-building

► With regard to the implementation of Article 27 of the Convention, heritage education should be integrated into the curriculum development for secondary and university (higher) education system.

► The initiative of Asian Academy on Cultural Heritage Management was noted and further consolidation required.

► Information sharing on site information, management planning and conservation methodologies was recommended.

► The National language versions of the Convention, the Operational Guidelines, the International assistance request forms and other related WH baseline information should be produced and made available for the site managers.

- Request the WH Centre assist in making the bibliographic documentation of the property (Nomination dossier, Evaluation Reports and the State of conservation Records etc.) accessible to the site managers.

1.6. Conclusions

- It was strongly recommended that the Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in November 1972 should be applied, to the extent possible, for the implementation of the WH Convention.
- The item on “Heritage Conservation and Development” should be integrated into the agenda of the Round Table for the Culture Ministers of North-east Asia due to take place in August 2003 in Macau.
- The proposal for the establishment of a Sub-regional Network of Heritage Managers in North-east Asia was discussed and agreed. Further elaboration of the concept amongst the five countries was agreed and UNESCO will facilitate this Forum.
- It was recommended that capacity-building activities should be carried out within this framework, and using the existing institutions such as ACCU. These activities will include: Sub-regional workshop on Global Strategy (2004); training courses on Site Management (2004); sub-regional exchange of expertise for monitoring the state of conservation of Cultural Heritage properties; and sharing of information at the sub-regional level.

Pan-Asian Recommendations on the Application of the World Heritage Convention for Cultural Heritage

1.2 Identification of cultural heritage

1.2.a. Status of national inventories and heritage legislation:

- Many States Parties do not have national inventories, and those that do exist are usually biased towards monumental and archaeological sites. Elaborating, revising and updating national cultural heritage inventories are activities foreseen for most Asian States Parties, placing due emphasis to heritage which reflect the diverse socio-cultural heritage of the region.
- National legislation needs to be consolidated, reviewed often harmonized and updated to permit adequate identification and protection of the wide range of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the Asian region.

Proposed future actions:

- UNESCO provides examples of the definitions of cultural heritage and national inventory formats gathered from various countries.
- WHC establishes an on-line data base for collating national heritage legislation in the Asian Region concerning WH cultural heritage. States Parties simultaneously to undertakes a review and possible revision of national legislation and transmit this to WHC. A review of the legal status of the boundaries of each inscribed Asian WH cultural properties should be undertaken by the States Parties concerned, and if WH properties are not protected by law, corrective actions should be taken.

Types of assistance needed:

- Assistance from UNESCO and other international co-operation for financial and technical support is required for compiling WH cultural heritage legislation in an on-line database.

- Technical assistance from the WH Fund to map and zone WH cultural properties may also be required.

1.2.b. The preparation of Tentative Lists:

- The Tentative Lists of most Asian States Parties need updating for cultural heritage based upon careful analysis and taking into consideration the

WH Committee's Global Strategy for a more representative WH List.

Proposed future actions:

- UNESCO to provide good examples of Tentative Lists and statements of significance to Asian States Parties.
- Sub-regional workshops of experts from Asian States Parties should be organized to review and harmonize Tentative Lists, to be followed by national workshops to revise as appropriate, national Tentative Lists for both cultural and mixed sites.
- To clear any confusion concerning the requirements of the Tentative List formats, WHC should remind Asian States Parties on such requirements requesting them to officially submit revised or updated Tentative Lists by the 29th session of the WH Committee, if the current Tentative List is not yet in the required format.

Types of assistance needed: Preparatory assistance from the WH Fund to organize sub-regional workshops to discuss and harmonize Tentative Lists and for the preparation of national Tentative Lists.

1.2.c. Nominations and the nomination process:

- Asian States Parties agreed on the common need for capacity building for preparing complete and sound nomination dossiers, and in particular for:
- identifying core, buffer, and support zone as appropriate based upon the identified heritage values of the property;
- preparing adequate maps which can also be used as management tools;
- consultation with local authorities and communities who have stakes in the WH conservation process.
- Asian States Parties also agreed on the common need for capacity building for post-WH inscription for synergistic application of other UNESCO legal instruments and complimentary programmes for the protection of cultural heritage such as the 1954 Hague Convention, 1970 Illicit Traffic Convention, 2001 Underwater CH Convention, "Memory of the World" and "Proclamation of the Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage" programmes. Finally, some Asian States Parties felt that the limitation of one new nomination per year per country may not serve the purposes of the WH Committee's Global Strategy for a more representative WH List.

Proposed future actions:

- Particularly good examples of management plans and nomination files to be widely disseminated and publicized on the WH Centre's website.

► Regional, sub-regional and national workshops should be held to increase the capacity of authorities in preparing nominations and management plans.

► Exchange of expertise at regional and international level and sharing of know-how on "good practices" to be adaptively re-used is strongly encouraged through site visits, publication of best practice case studies, and the organization of workshops.

► Various legal instruments should be translated into the languages of States Parties where this has not already been done, and national workshops supported by UNESCO legal assistance should be organized to synergize the application of UNESCO cultural heritage legal instruments.

Types of assistance needed: Preparatory assistance from the WH Fund, UNESCO Regular Programme, extra-budgetary sources, and co-operation between States Parties to elaborate complete and sound nomination dossiers.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of cultural heritage

1.3.a. Integration of heritage conservation within the general development planning policy:

- The concerns of conservation and management of WH cultural properties including buffer and support zones, need to be fully integrated into comprehensive urban and territorial planning policies.
- Methodology(ies) for undertaking cultural impact assessments need to be established and incorporated systematically prior to finalizing and implementing infrastructure or other development plans which impact upon WH cultural properties.
- Multi and bi-lateral development assistance projects (especially infrastructure development projects) need to be monitored for their impact on heritage sites. The active involvement and co-operation of ODA donors (World Bank, ADB, JICA, JBIC and EU, amongst others) in the WH conservation process should be actively sought so that development projects at WH cultural properties benefit the heritage conservation and development process of the designated WH areas. Development projects at WH cultural properties should be designed to incorporate elements of resource sustainability, employment and other benefits for the local communities, especially in cases where poverty alleviation is a priority issue.

Proposed future actions:

► In order to establish better co-operation between the different responsible agencies and organizations, the following processes were deemed potentially useful:

Examination and comparison of existing examples of inter-ministerial commissions at national level or inter-departmental commissions at local provincial level, to seek examples of best practices.

► Establishment of national GIS systems for inventorying and mapping cultural heritage together with demographic, infrastructural information into data layers for joint and shared information management and utilization by the relevant and concerned planning authorities.

► Effective monitoring indicators need to be established and tested.

► Cultural impact assessments of proposed development activities need to be systematically conducted, in co-operation with the donor agencies. In addition, on-site project teams implementing development activities need to be made aware of heritage conservation needs. UNESCO should actively participate in ODA activity planning missions as well as in periodical monitoring of the implementation of such activities.

► There is a need to raise awareness of the development agencies on the benefits cultural heritage conservation can bring to the overall development process. UNESCO field offices need to be sensitized to such benefits and mandated to ensure that these needs are incorporated into UNDAFs and subsequent project review meetings.

Types of assistance needed: Mobilization of (a) co-operation of Asian States Parties' authorities responsible for development activities to benefit the WH conservation process; and international development assistance agencies by States Parties and UNESCO to ensure that the ODA activities are planned and implemented to meet both development and heritage conservation needs.

1.3.b. Participation of local communities:

- In general, community involvement in the management of World Heritage properties should be encouraged.
- Management plans accompanying nomination dossiers should always include a section on how local community involvement will be incorporated into the management and stewardship of WH cultural properties.
- Traditional custodians, such as Buddhist monks, Hindu and Christian priests, mosque waqaf property trustees, or traditional owners of heritage need to be fully involved in the WH conservation process and their role as co-guardian of WH responsible for the conservation and maintenance of WH cultural properties appropriately recognized.

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section I

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Examples of best practices of local community participation in heritage conservation in Asia and beyond should be collected by the States Parties and transmitted to WHC for collation and dissemination electronically and hardcopy.
- ▶ Based upon the collated best practice case studies, a manual or other training material should be developed by UNESCO and the Advisory Bodies.
- ▶ Such manuals or training material should be used at on-site training workshops and eventually, the process should be mainstreamed into the curriculum of training institutions if appropriate.

Types of assistance needed: Asian States Parties submit best practice case studies to WHC, with assistance from the WH Fund as appropriate and necessary for compiling case studies and to upload them electronically and to print them in hardcopy.

I.3.c. Tourism development

- Tourism management at WH cultural properties should ideally fall under the direct control or regulation of the site management authorities responsible for site protection, conservation, and other management tasks.
- Management plans elaborated for nomination dossiers should always include a section on how on-site tourism will be managed and regulated, bearing in mind the carrying capacity of each heritage property.
- Tour operators and guides of WH cultural heritage should be required to have training in both the historical information and conservation requirements of the property concerned.
- Means of income generation at and for WH cultural properties and schemes for redirecting tourism revenue towards cultural heritage conservation need to be studied with a view to establishing, wherever possible, a linkage between tourism use and heritage conservation at WH cultural properties based on the principle of “user pays.”
- Implementation of above measures requires that accurate tourism statistics be collected and made available to heritage management authorities.

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ WHC to disseminate information to Asian States Parties on the need for integrating tourism management within management plans or mechanisms.
- ▶ Best practice examples of tourism management from the Asian Region to be collected and disseminated.

▶ Statutes or contracts between heritage conservation authorities and tourism departments or private companies regulating revenue generation from tourism (ticketing, taxation, other marketing strategies) should be collated together with best practice case studies, especially those emphasizing re-investment of tourism revenue for WH cultural conservation.

▶ Current practices of national and on-site tourism authorities in collecting tourism statistics should be examined, reviewed, and where needed improved.

Types of assistance needed: Asian States Parties to provide information on case studies to WHC and WH Fund and extrabudgetary assistance needed to collate, publish and disseminate (electronically and hardcopy) the case studies for tourism management.

I.3.d. Financial measures (improvements therein):

- It is necessary to examine the feasibility and means of mobilizing public-private cooperation for conservation and heritage related business development at both the national and site level.
- The use of Trust Funds, Foundations, Bonds and similar mechanism specifically designed for sustainable financing of heritage conservation should be examined and if appropriate, made use of by Asian States Parties, or by private national or regional institutions.
- Successful implementation of such fiscal measures requires accurate statistics to be first collected and analyzed by heritage management authorities.

Proposed future actions:

- ▶ Gather and share examples of different Asian management authorities (statutes, terms of reference), and tourism facilities (visitors centres, souvenir shops, toilets) and analyzed with examples of other international models together with information on the legal provisions in place to implement such fiscal models.
- ▶ Current practices of collecting and analyzing financial statistics should be examined, and improved as deemed appropriate.

Types of assistance needed: States Parties to transmit information to WHC, which collates the model examples, with support from the WH Fund or extrabudgetary sources.

I.3.e. Professional (capacity building and training needs):

- The Asian States Parties agreed that for WH cultural heritage, there is a need for:
- Enhancement of scientific and technical studies benefiting WH cultural heritage.

- Promotion of professional training in management and conservation of WH cultural heritage at a regional level, in particular for:
- Management skills (monitoring and statistical indicators, fiscal management, site interpretation, technical skills including GIS and other IT applications, remote sensing mapping and non-destructive methods of investigation)
- Conservation skills (landscapes, conservation of exposed archaeological sites, earthen architecture, vernacular architecture, especially wooden and other perishable materials, “modern” construction materials (e.g. cement)).
- Supporting and strengthening the link between scientific research, professional capacity building, and political decision making at national, provincial and local levels.
- A regional databank or roster of professionals active in the WH cultural field.

Proposed future actions:

- Identify research priority WH cultural conservation issues and mobilize existing universities or institutions to conduct research on such issues, possibly through inter-university research team.
- Organize professional courses for advanced students, as well as advanced and refresher courses for in-service professionals.
- Increase capacity building activities benefiting WH cultural heritage which have multiplier effects, especially on-the-job, on-site training activities.

Types of assistance needed:

- WHC consolidates priority issues based on Periodic Reports from Asian States Parties, and together with the Advisory Bodies, other UNESCO services, and Asian States Parties, mobilizes assistance to support research in these issues.
- WHC, with support from the WH Committee, integrates a regional on-line databank of professionals active in the WH cultural field into the WHC information management system.

I.3.f. New and improved services

- GIS is in operation at some Asian WH cultural properties and has proven to be a useful tool. The Asian States Parties recognized that appropriate GISs should be supported, technically and financially, both at the site level and for national inventories.
- Bibliographic, archival, cartographic and topographical information, photos and other data

banks need to be systematically established and mechanisms to share information need to be improved and made accessible (on line) to those responsible for managing the Asian WH cultural heritage.

Proposed future actions:

- Promotion of co-operation between government bodies, universities and research institutions to increase the application of appropriate GISs for Asian WH cultural properties.
- Links with universities to sustain, support, develop and update GISs are crucial.

Types of assistance needed:

- States Parties to identify and inform on the current state of data banks, information management systems and GIS in place benefiting Asian WH cultural properties.
- WHC to examine the feasibility to develop and establish a website portal for access to GISs of Asian WH cultural properties.

I.3.g. (Other) Issues:

- Looting, vandalism and theft at WH cultural properties is a persisting problem, and the Asian States Parties underscored the need to review progress made to reduce such threats before the 30th Session of the WH Committee (i.e. every three years).

Proposed future actions:

- A mechanism for immediate reporting of theft to INTERPOL and other UNESCO partners for this purpose needs to be established.
- Effective legal measures need to be enacted and enforced on-site. Asian States Parties not yet party to the 1970 Illicit Traffic Convention and the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention are strongly encouraged to ratify, with assistance in drawing up national legislation and training of law enforcement agencies from UNESCO's legal service.

Types of assistance needed: Mobilization of legal and capacity building assistance from UNESCO.

I.4. International co-operation and fund raising

- There is a need to enhance exchange of information, experience and co-operation between experts, organizations and financial planning authorities at national, regional and international levels, to ensure that WH conservation is integrated within the financial agenda, and to avoid duplication of efforts at WH cultural properties.

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- The establishment of multi-year programmes with multi-donor support (such as Africa 2009 or Central Asian Earth 2002-2012 programmes), is a strategy which should be pursued for the Asian Region and its sub-regions for cultural heritage.

Proposed future actions:

- WHC to gather ODA information benefitting and impacting upon Asian WH cultural properties.
- UNESCO to monitor and to give advice to the ODA activities.

Types of assistance needed: WHC to write circular letters to potential donors on priority needs facing Asian WH cultural properties and to monitor ODA project grant and loan possibilities. Seed money from the WH Fund is necessary to obtain additional funding.

1.5. Education, information and awareness-building

- Introduce or continue programmes for teaching cultural WH at schools in formal education curricula and in informal education, utilizing the WH Education Kit as appropriate, with a view to encouraging the integration of WH Education into the formal curriculum.
- Increase publications on cultural WH, and make these available on-site and on-line.
- Regional partners specializing in information and awareness raising should be further mobilized to raise awareness of WH and related conservation and development issues.
- The use of television should be further promoted to raise awareness of WH, and in particular the threats facing Asian WH cultural properties.

Proposed future actions:

- Develop pilot teaching programmes for schools, or in the case where such programmes already exist, continue the programmes integrating the WH education material as appropriate.
- Translate and reproduce the WH Education Kit into local languages.
- Prepare and publish visitor maps, guidebooks and general information on Tentative List and WH properties, especially targeting large audiences and local communities where such heritage is located.
- Special supplementary information on regional and national issues facing Asian States Parties for cultural heritage should be prepared and disseminated, possibly prioritizing documentary programmes on specific WH

cultural properties under threat, and short “advertising” slots to be aired pro bono (model of UNICEF and UNHCR could be applied).

- Roundtables of Ministers from the region should be convened regularly on a regional and/or subregional basis to increase awareness of senior policy makers.

Types of assistance needed:

- Extrabudgetary funds to support WH Education activities, exploring commercial co-publication arrangements.
- Seed money for publication preparation perhaps may be necessary from the WH Fund, while printing costs should be subsidized from on-site publication sales, gate fees, etc.
- States Parties are encouraged to draft and transmit information to WHC for on-line dissemination.
- WHC is requested to negotiate with broadcast companies (e.g: Star TV etc, together with UN TV and UNESCO TV), to disseminate WH information.

Section II

Sub-regional recommendations for West-Central Asian Cultural Properties

II.2. Statement of Significance:

- WH properties are being re-evaluated and examined in a more comprehensive manner, beyond appreciation as "single monuments" but as important characteristics forming a property located within a cultural and natural context and setting.
- In other words, cultural heritage properties are being re-evaluated and their WH significance is being redefined, taking into consideration the enhanced and advanced understanding of heritage properties since the time of inscription.

Status of Site Boundaries:

- Core and buffer zone of the property are being redefined based upon a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the heritage values of the WH properties and changes which have occurred in the vicinity of the properties since the time of inscription on the WH List.

II.3. Statement of Authenticity/Integrity:

- The WH values for which the properties were originally inscribed on the WH List have in principle, not changed.
- However, there have been some gradual changes, especially in the urban WH properties, which must be better monitored, controlled.

II.4 Administrative and Management Arrangements:

- Appropriate administrative and management arrangements backed by legal instruments are in place at national level.
- However, the actual implementation of such arrangements is sometimes weak, in particular, in urban areas, WH properties have experienced change and development pressure.
- Enhanced co-operation between the relevant authorities could result in improvement to ensure non-violation of conservation regulations.
- Additionally, local community awareness raising and participation should be increased to discourage violation of conservation regulations.

Present State of Conservation:

- A great amount of continuous high-quality conservation, restoration and presentation work has been undertaken by the national authorities concerned, and generally speaking, the state of conservation of the five West-Central Asian WH Cultural properties was deemed to be good.
- The recognition of properties as WH has played an important role in increasing the national commitment and allocation of funds to increase conservation, presentation, and development activities on-site. However common conservation challenges, which continue to be faced in this sub-region are:
 - (i) rise of humidity caused by the high water-table level, and consequent efflorescence;
 - (ii) continuous deterioration of unbaked earthen architectural and archaeological heritage properties;
 - (iii) insufficient urban development management, insufficient co-ordination of relevant authorities, encroachment;
 - (iv) the region's legal provisions for heritage protection are mostly new, and sufficient time is required to be able to review and strengthen the existing provisions. However, it was already noted that harmonization of some legal provisions at national and local level is needed.

Staffing and Training Needs:

- The sub-region has a significant pool of conservation experts who have tackled the above-listed conservation problems.
- International and inter-regional co-operation with other conservation institutions and universities has resulted in gradual capacity building of national experts. Some of the exchange of expertise and experience has proven useful, while some are not possible to adaptively apply.
- However, there is a need to increase this sharing of experiences, lessons learnt, exchange expertise to address the ever-growing conservation and management challenges. In particular, specific conservation problems listed above should be regularly discussed at sub-regional or regional levels to maximize technical know-how on heritage conservation. I
- It is important to note that language is an important factor in this sub-region.
- Another important human capacity building need is traditional building and maintenance craftsmanship, which must be revived and increased, accompanied by a

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section II

creation or increase in the market for use of such craftsmanship.

Financial Situation:

► The national and provincial budget allocations for protecting, conserving, managing and adequately developing the WH properties are helpful and appreciated, but are far from sufficient to meet the needs, as the region's geo-political situation has led to national governments to prioritize national defence above heritage conservation and development. If the region's security is enhanced, it is hoped that national funding could be channelled to heritage matters. International support from bilateral or multilateral arrangements has been mobilized for most of the five WH properties reviewed in this sub-region, often in a catalytic manner, to assist the national authorities in their work.

Access to IT:

► Communication and access to IT varies between WH properties located in urban and rural areas.

Visitor Management:

► In most WH properties, tourism management plans do not exist. In some cases, tourism development is included in a multi-year programme, but these programmes are sometimes not fully implemented. There is a need for improved information provision to the general public and tourists on the WH properties, through improved communication technology.

II.5. Threats and Risks:

- Socio-economic development pressure results with encroachment in urban WH properties.
- Air pollution destroys irreplaceable heritage, especially stone monuments and decoration.
- Natural weathering destroys earthen architecture.
- Rise in the water table causes humidity and efflorescence.
- Previous inappropriate conservation interventions cause new conservation problems.
- Tourism pressure and inadequate visitor management damages some WH properties.

Counteractive Plans:

► For each WH property, the national authorities have planned and are trying to implement conservation programmes to counteract the threats and risks facing the properties. Some measures have been implemented which have been successful, while others have not yet been implemented.

II.6. Monitoring Arrangements:

► Each WH property discussed has responsible officers who monitor the properties.

Monitoring Indicators:

- Monitoring indicators were not discussed in detail
- Another important human capacity building need is traditional building and maintenance craftsmanship, which must be revived and increased, accompanied by a creation or increase in the market for use of such
- Each WH property discussed has responsible officers who monitor the properties.

II.7. Conclusions and Proposed Actions:

- Proposed actions, which should fully take into consideration the economic and financial realities of the sub-region and national governments, include the
 - (i) establishment of a website, publications in various languages, of conservation, management and presentation know-how, guidelines, lessons learnt, "best practices" for each of the WH properties in the region.
 - (ii) establishment of a regional centre for WH conservation, which not only elaborates a mid-term strategy and regional action plan for WH conservation, but also guides the implementation of such a strategy and plan, and regularly and systematically organizes training activities and reviews of the progress made in the region.
 - (iii) determining and concentrating on two or three areas of conservation and management issues at a time to ensure that the limited human and financial resources are put to good and effective use, which leads to positive and sustainable impact in the WH conservation field.

Sub-regional Recommendations for South Asian Cultural Properties

II.2. Statement of Significance:

- WHC should explore the possibility of defining or setting up parameters to describe the statements of significance.

Status of Site Boundaries:

- WHC should extend necessary assistance in defining the boundaries of World Heritage properties on site-specific basis. Beyond buffer zone, a support zone should be identified where planned support services should be encouraged with a view to reduce impact of tourism on the World Heritage property.

II.3. Statement of Authenticity/Integrity:

- Authenticity is variable from site to site. Depending on the research finding, it could be further enhanced. Authenticity of not only the tangible part but also intangible part should also be protected.
- There are various charters, guidelines, and manuals. The site managers have to be made aware of these documents and its application in the conservation of the World Heritage property.

II.4. Administrative and Management Arrangements:

- WHC should provide framework or guidelines to develop site-specific management plan for core and buffer zone and indicate activities that could be allowed to enable the State Parties can provide a site-specific indications/information.

Present State of Conservation:

- It is recommended that States Parties should be encouraged to develop data bank on conservation of each site and WHC may monitor conservation of the World Heritage properties through "periodical technical audit".

Staffing and Training Needs:

- The group recommends that training programmes should be formulated and implemented to train the site managers and other relevant staff to make them understand the internationally accepted conservatory principles.

Financial Situation and Access to IT:

- The World Heritage funding is essential for training, personnel (WH sites), networking, GIS, research and conservation laboratories, and training for field staff.

Visitor Management:

- The group recommends that the WHC should lay down guidelines for site-specific and region-specific plan.

II.5. Threats and Risks:

- The group recommends that threats affecting the site should be identified, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, impact of tourism (on sites).
- The group further recommends that threats and risks in each site and counter actions should be formulated to address the threats and set up indicators.
- A mechanism should be put in place to monitor whether threats are increasing or decreasing in the buffer or core zone.

II.7. Conclusions and Proposed Actions:

- Need to maintain the authenticity of site by constant monitoring
- Periodical monitoring of conservation both in terms of structural conservation and conservation of environment of World Heritage properties
- Check impact of tourism on World Heritage properties
- Section II of the Questionnaire should be more specific

Sub-regional Recommendations for South-East Asian Cultural Properties

II.2. Statement of Significance:

- There is a widespread need to review the Statement of Significance (SOS) for many sites in the SE Asian region, especially early inscriptions.
- It was proposed that state parties prepare new SOSs, according to UNESCO guidelines, for submission to WHC and inclusion in the global strategy review of tentative lists in consultation with ICOMOS. This could be carried out through sub-regional follow-up meetings.

Boundaries:

- As concerns the status of Buffer Zones, the extension of the boundaries for sites could be carried out in a “leopard spots” scheme of identifying priority areas in the surrounding zones. These spots could be incorporated into the protection of the core zone following research on their WH authenticity/integrity value (i.e. Borobudur model).

II.3. Authenticity & Integrity:

- Model forms for different heritage categories (industrial, monumental, archaeological, cultural landscapes etc) should be disseminated to provincial authorities (i.e. Thai regional office structure system) for incorporation into national as well as regional Tentative Lists.

II.4. Management & state of conservation:

- For exemplary administrative arrangements, the circulation of good practice models of innovative management plans (such as Luang Prabang, Angkor APSARA public-private partnership) should be disseminated to other countries in the region.

Training:

- Inadequate staffing and training needs were referred to by most participants and it was felt that initiatives such as ‘Asian Academy’ should be supported at the regional level. In this way, training could go beyond the *ad hoc* level to continuous up-dating of professional skills.
- Possibilities to involve Australian, US and European universities in internship schemes with culture ministries in SE Asian countries could be further explored.

Financial arrangements:

- Feasibility studies for the establishment of different types of financial Trust Funds would be helpful to set up sustainable financing arrangements.
- A crucial need in addressing the impact of urban development and infrastructure projects on historic cities, would be to identify (through inter-ministerial coordination) Official Development Assistance loans and grants with an impact on cultural heritage conservation and provide early advice (before the project is already underway) in good practice.

Access to IT:

- Particular needs were identified in the continual re-training in the use of new equipment such as GIS mapping techniques and software.

Visitor Management:

- A comparative regional study on the diversity and appropriateness of different types of ‘tourist tax’ mechanisms should be undertaken (this could be done in partnership with different university in the region).
- The creation of “new itineraries” could help diffuse visitor pressure on certain key areas with concentrated zones of tourism.

II.5. Factors affecting the property:

- Studies on “visual impact” of areas outside the core zone of WH sites are needed.
- Different perceptions on the suitability of vegetation (fruit trees etc) in historic and monumental sites (i.e. Vat Phou)
- Noise pollution of motorbikes and Karaoke bars.
- Problems of migrant populations
- Preventive intelligence gathering on vandalism & theft.
- There was a need to formalise emergency plans for fire, pest outbreaks, and typhoons.

Monitoring:

- Implementation of the systematic use of ‘photographic monitoring’ of monuments (with digital cameras wherever possible) and other features sites as a preventive tool to document changes in sites.
- There was a desire to incorporate existing institutions wherever possible in the maintenance, monitoring, upkeep & promotion of sites (monks, assemblies of elders and so on).

II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions:

- ▶ If possible, re-classify “in-danger” sites with significant improvement as sites “in development” or “in evolution”.
- ▶ Examine the *application* of legislation for comprehensive land use planning
- ▶ Raise awareness of all institutions/stakeholders including religious, secular as well as political decision-makers.
- ▶ Continuously up-date professional skills.
- ▶ Develop communication of good practice at all levels: local, national and international.
- ▶ Recognise the intangible heritage dimension of many tangible/physical structures (i.e. revival of the Ramayana dance in heritage spaces, and negative effects of modification of house ownership in historic cities which influence community composition).
- ▶ Promote inter-ministerial coordination in the task of management & monitoring which mitigates inappropriate infrastructure development programmes.

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section II

Sub-regional Recommendations for North-East Asian Cultural Properties

II.2. Statement of Significance:

- Legal provision should be provided to better define the boundary and buffer zone of the property, as a mechanism for protecting authenticity and integrity.

II.4. Management:

Training needs:

- Urgent need to reinforce the training for the site managers especially on the management capacity (including conservation technologies, more emphasis on the traditional skills training).
- It is recommended that tradition building material industries and craftsmanship should be revived for the protection of Cultural Heritage properties.

Financial situation:

- It was recognized that funding support in general is insufficient to achieve the fundamental roles in the protection and restoration of cultural heritage, mobilization of financial resources and technical expertise was crucial in supporting the national and local efforts to conserve and manage World Cultural Heritage.
- It was strongly recommended that revenue from tourism activities should be used for conservation purposes by the Site Management. It was also recommended that the local communities at the heritage site should benefit from these tourism activities.
- Asian States Parties, all authorities concerned in the conservation activities of World Cultural Heritage, UNESCO, its partners and the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Convention are urged to increase co-operation to mobilize financial resources and technical expertise benefiting the conservation, management and development of World Cultural Heritage properties to obtain maximum positive and sustainable benefits.

Visitor/Site management:

- Redefine and develop the management plan integrating major aspects such as tourism planning in consultation with concerned stakeholders and communities. Special awareness-building activities on WH Convention at site level, in particular for the ethnic groups.
- Develop best practice management guidelines for the site management, e.g. management plans.
- Site and heritage interpretation should be emphasized at local level. Develop guidelines

II.5. Threats and risks:

- Risks and pressures affecting the multiple properties should be noted by the Committee.

Pan-Asian Recommendations for Cultural World Heritage Properties

Statement of Significance/Borders and Buffer Zones/Authenticity and Integrity:

- Statements of significance need to be examined and, in many cases, revised in order to better explain the specific heritage value of a WH property. This is especially the case for properties where there has been recent research which has led to a better understanding of the social, cultural and historic significance of the site.
- Following the revision of the statement of significance, the borders of the property need to be re-examined and possibly redefined based upon the heritage values of the property to ensure that the borders protect the entirety of the site, including its core, buffer and support zones.
- Site management plans will have to be elaborated, or updated, taking into consideration the re-examined and possibly redefined zoning, to ensure that the management strategy adopted for each WH property conserves its physical integrity, its historical authenticity, and the heritage values for which the property was inscribed on the WH List.
- The protection of the values of the WH property's environmental setting should also be integrated within the management scheme, as well as the support services, including those for tourism.

Proposed future actions:

- National action, with advisory input upon request from UNESCO/WH Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

Timeframe: All WH cultural properties in Asia inscribed prior to 1994 should be subjected to this process, which should be completed within 6 years and reported on at the next round of the Regional Periodic Reporting.

Information, Data and Knowledge Base for Improved Decision Making:

- Information (map, textual, photographic, scientific) on the authenticity and state of conservation of a WH property should be archived electronically and made available to those responsible for site management. This includes all monitoring reports, data, and information on all conservation work undertaken.

- The WH Centre should establish basic guidelines for various site management tools and practices, which should not attempt to be exhaustive, but which establish the baselines which should not be overlooked at any WH property and which will permit comparison between WH properties. Some of the management tools and practices in need of these baselines are:
 - (i) cultural impact assessments;
 - (ii) objectives and use applications for buffer and support zones;
 - (iii) monitoring and regulating tourism carrying capacity at a WH property;
 - (iv) indicators to measure development pressure stress on WH properties;
 - (v) revenue collection, retention and investment in the WH conservation process;
 - (vi) involvement of local communities and traditional custodians in conservation and management of WH properties.
- It was agreed that two specific site management tools are required to be developed at all WH properties:
- Accurate, up to date, and complete maps. The most useful format for this is through the application of simple GIS, which should conform to both national and WH mapping standards.
- Detailed and complete inventory of all the moveable and immoveable cultural heritage assets of a WH property.

Proposed future actions:

- Site managers to initiate action with regard to inventories.
- National heritage authorities (at various levels) to take action with regard to archiving data.
- WH Centre and RACAP, together with Advisory Bodies, to take action with regard to baseline frameworks.

Timeframe: Asian WH National Focal Points should report on specific national or WH property needs and progress made in implementing the above actions to WH Centre within two years. WH Centre and RACAP will elaborate a plan of action for establishing basic guidelines for site management tools and practices, to be discussed at a regional consultation meeting within two years.

Conclusions and Recommendations on Section II

Capacity Building and Training:

- Site managers require specific training in management skills. Networks such as the Asian Academy should be actively utilized for upgrading management skills.
- On-site technical staff require training to update technical skills, specially in areas of
 - (i) GIS and other IT;
 - (ii) non-invasive and remote sensing techniques for research and documentation;
 - (iii) scientific techniques for monitoring and conservation of heritage material. Particular attention needs to be paid to the scientific application of traditional materials and building conservation techniques, and especially to the use of substitutes for cement (in all but recent building where cement was used in the original construction.)
- Training of craftsmen should be given attention so that traditional skills required for authentic conservation and maintenance of a property are not lost but encouraged to continue. It will be necessary, in most cases, to provide subsidies or to identify new commercial opportunities for such traditional skill-holders so that they remain economically viable.
- Design competitions should be encouraged for new facilities to be constructed at WH properties (museums, visitor facilities, toilets, staff housing, office space, signage, street and site furniture.) Networks such as the Asian Academy and Forum UNESCO networks may be mobilized for such purposes.

Proposed future actions:

- Heritage management authorities should draw up a schedule for staff training based upon a prioritized national WH capacity-building plan.
- States Parties should identify relevant training institutions in their countries and encourage them to join existing cultural heritage networks such as the Asian Academy.

Timeframe: Immediate national level action.

Ensuring Local Benefits from the Development of World Heritage Properties:

- Local retention of revenue and re-investment in heritage conservation and development of WH properties should be an explicit goal of management. The strategies to achieve this and their relative success should be incorporated into the Periodic Reporting exercise in future years.

- Best practice models from various Asian WH cultural properties should be documented and made generally available. A first group of examples can be drawn from the case studies conducted under the recently completed 4-year UNESCO-WH Centre-NORAD project: *Culture Heritage Management and Tourism: Asia-Pacific Models for Co-operation between Stakeholders*. Examples of such strategies include gate receipts, taxes, trusts, and ODA.

Proposed future actions:

- WH Centre and RACAP should publicize and disseminate best practice examples of sustainable heritage conservation and development models at Asian WH cultural properties
- National authorities should analyze existing revenue (both retention and re-investment) practices both at national and WH property level.

Timeframe: Publication before the 28th session of the WH Committee in 2004. Review and analysis of national and WH property level revenue systems before the 29th session of the WH Committee in 2005.

Monitoring Indicators and Periodic Reporting:

- Specific WH monitoring indicators need to be established by the WH Centre and the Advisory Bodies. In designing the indicators, time-bound analysis should be integrated within the system, so that monitoring and periodic reporting can move from a reactive exercise to a predictive and preventive (warning) tool.
- Sub-regional meetings of WH site managers should be convened to introduce and test the system of monitoring indicators and to assess its effectiveness.

Proposed future actions:

- WH Centre and the Advisory Bodies should develop a monitoring indicators system to be tested at Asian WH cultural properties.

Timeframe: WH Centre and the Advisory Bodies elaborate a monitoring indicators system before the 28th session of the WH Committee in 2004. WH Centre, the Advisory Bodies and RACAP test the system after introducing it to Asian States Parties between the 28th and 29th session of the WH Committee.

Annexes

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West-Central Asia



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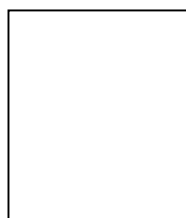


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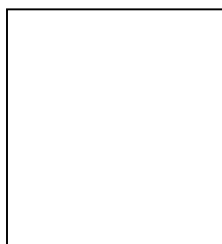


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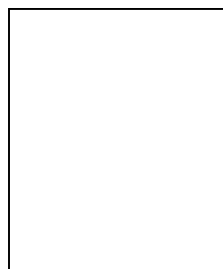


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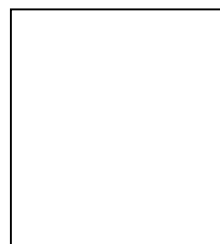
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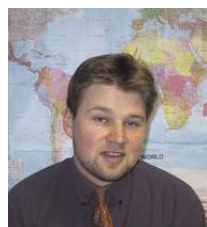


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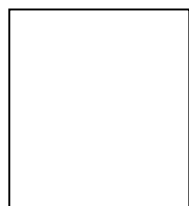


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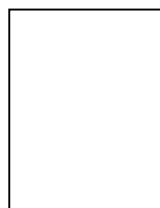
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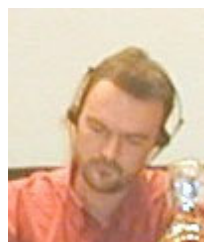
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List of working and reference documents

1. Provisional Programme of the Consultation Meeting
2. Provisional List of Participants
3. Structure and Content of the Periodic Report
4. Structure and Content of Asia-Pacific Synthesis Periodic Report
4. Table Form of the WH Committee
5. Draft structure of the Asia-Pacific Synthesis Periodic Report
6. Final Report of the UNESCO Regional Workshop for the Preparation of the Periodic Report on the State of Conservation of Cultural WH in Asia, 11-13 July 2001, Gyeongju, Republic of Korea (see **Annex 3**)
7. Conclusion and Recommendations of the UNESCO Workshop for the Preparation of Regional Synthesis Periodic Reports on Natural and Mixed World Heritage Properties in Asia and the Pacific, 20-22 January 2003, Hanoi, Vietnam
8. Draft Summaries of National Periodic Reports of Asian States Parties
 - Section I Draft summaries
 - Section II Draft Summaries:
West-Central Asia
South Asia
South-East Asia
North-East Asia
 - Section I Draft Recommendations
West-Central Asia
South Asia
South-East
North-East
 - Section II Draft Recommendations
West-Central Asia
South Asia
South-East
North-East
 - Pan Asian Recommendation for Section I
 - Pan Asia Recommendations for Section I

Conclusions of the UNESCO Regional Workshop for the Preparation of the Periodic Report on the State of Conservation of Cultural World Heritage in Asia, 11-13 July 2001, Gyeongju, Republic of Korea

The Participants of the Meeting representing Asian States Parties with World Heritage Properties inscribed before or in 1994 adopted the following conclusions and recommended actions for strengthening the World Heritage conservation process using the Periodic Reporting Exercise:

1. Monitoring

- 1.1. It was recognized that the direct link between the criterion (or criteria) for inscription of each specific World Cultural Heritage and the attributes describing the qualitative and quantitative values must be reviewed for most properties inscribed on the World Heritage List on and until end of 1994.
- 1.2. It was underscored that the identification of indicators for (re)evaluating the World Heritage values of the properties was crucial in applying systematic monitoring schemes to record changes to cultural property.
- 1.3. **Recommended Action:** Each State Party and the authorities concerned are recommended to re-examine the World Heritage values of each property inscribed on the World Heritage List before or by end of 1994, and identify (a) attributes which qualitatively and quantitatively describe the World Heritage value of each property; (b) prepare statements of significance for those properties without such statements based upon (a); (c) identify clear indicators for systematically monitoring changes to the attributes of each property, to enable that the World Heritage value is safeguarded from negative impact, changes, alterations which will decrease the authenticity and integrity of the property. Utilization of the original nomination dossier, the ICOMOS evaluation, the criterion (or criteria) which originally justified the inscription of each property on the World Heritage List, and state of conservation reports prepared in the past will be essential for this exercise.

2. Legislative and administrative provisions

- 2.1. In light of the increasing threats to cultural properties from illegal looting, vandalism, tourism, ad-hoc or uncontrolled development, it was recognized that existing legislative and administrative provisions in many Asian States Parties were insufficient. In some States, there is overlapping and lacunas in the existing regulations, which combined with insufficient co-ordination between the authorities concerned in

enforcing the regulations, led to irreversible damage to some World Heritage properties.

- 2.2. In other States, existing legislation was outdated and penalties for damaging or misusing World Cultural Heritage resources are too weak, leading to blatant offences by the general public. It was also noted that in many States, human and financial resources to enforce the existing legislation were insufficient, facilitating the looters, vandals, and tourists to damage the properties.
- 2.3. **Recommended Action:** Recalling Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention, Asian States Parties with weak or outdated legislation and regulations for the protection of World Cultural Heritage are urged to review the existing laws, examine possible means to strengthen these laws in light of the increasing threats facing such cultural heritage resources, and take the necessary actions to ensure adequate protection of this irreplaceable resource such as the establishment and implementation of comprehensive management plans.
- 2.4. **Recommended Action:** UNESCO is requested to facilitate Asian States Parties facing difficulties in strengthening existing legislation and regulations to adequately conserve and manage World Cultural Heritage resources by preparing manuals indicating "good case legislation and administrative structures" applied in World Cultural Heritage properties. In particular, examples of successful legislation applicable to cultural heritage owned by private owners, would be useful for the conservation and development of historic cities or living heritage sites.
- 2.5. **Recommended Action:** In order to identify what has been removed or damaged illegally, to discourage further looting and vandalism and to facilitate recovery of stolen elements, it is recommended that inventories of characters and elements within each property be established and updated, and used as a tool for monitoring change within each property, and taking necessary legal actions when possible.
- 2.6. **Recommended Action:** It is recommended that UNESCO and Asian States Parties with insufficient human and financial resources to guard each World Cultural Heritage property against illegal looting and vandalism and consider means for training "cultural heritage guardians". In particular, consideration should be given to increasing the capacity and awareness of "cultural heritage guards", as well as for utilizing cultural heritage volunteers from the local community members.

Conclusions of the UNESCO Regional Workshop in Gyeongju

3. Conservation and capacity building of heritage custodians

3.1. The need for capacity building for conservation technologies of site-managers, conservators and the authorities concerned with the conservation and management of World Cultural Heritage properties was stressed.

3.2. **Recommended Action:** UNESCO and Asian States Parties are requested to identify priority areas where conservation capacity (technical know-how) should be increased at national or sub-regional basis. Thereafter, UNESCO and ICCROM are invited to elaborate training programmes addressing these areas in close co-operation with the concerned State(s) Party(ies). Mobilization of financial and technical support should be sought both nationally and internationally for the implementation of such training programmes.

3.3. **Recommended Action:** Recognizing that traditional skills for historic building conservation are often more appropriate than to the utilization of new building material and new technologies, Asian States Parties are recommended to consider reviving and supporting traditional building material industries and craftsmanship for having at its disposal, a pool of human and material resources for the conservation of historic buildings composing World Cultural Heritage properties.

3.4. **Recommended Action:** In light of the importance of private property owners to systematically monitor change and seek technical expertise for appropriate conservation intervention to safeguard World Heritage properties, development, distribution and use of pedagogical material (videos, home owner's manual, monitoring check lists) is encouraged.

3.5. **Recommended Action:** As many of the conservation problems faced by Asian World Heritage site managers and conservators are common, UNESCO is requested to mobilize financial and technical resources to organize thematic workshops addressing specific conservation technical issues for Asian States Parties.

3.6. **Recommended Action:** Monitoring and preventive maintenance training for traditional custodians (monks, priests, etc.)

3.7. **Recommended Action:** Training in monitoring and preventive conservation for guards and other workers on-site, tour operators.

4. Mobilization of financial resources and technical expertise

4.1. It was recognized that mobilization of financial resources and technical expertise was crucial in supporting the national and local efforts to conserve and manage World Cultural Heritage.

4.2. **Recommended Action:** Asian States Parties, all authorities concerned in the conservation activities of World Cultural Heritage, UNESCO, its partners and the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Convention are urged to increase co-operation to mobilize financial resources and technical expertise benefiting the conservation, management and development of World Cultural Heritage properties to obtain maximum positive and sustainable benefits. For those World Heritage properties managed and being developed by various authorities, it is recommended that collaboration be established or strengthened to ensure integrated conservation and development of the cultural heritage resource.

5. Information and awareness-raising

5.1. It was noted that many Asian States Parties and World Cultural Heritage management authorities at national and local levels do not have access to information and pedagogical documentation concerning the conservation and management of cultural heritage resources and World Heritage protection, as such documents often exist only in English and not in the national or local languages.

5.2. **Recommended Action:** UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM, and other partners are requested to prepare and disseminate to the maximum degree possible, information and documentation concerning various Conventions, Recommendations, Charters, Manuals, Handbooks concerning the conservation and management of cultural heritage resources prepared by these bodies in the national language versions of Asian States Parties.

5.3. The importance of raising awareness of property owners of World Cultural Heritage properties, the general population, decision makers, donors, tourists and tourism industries concerning the heritage values and conservation needs of these fragile resources was underlined. Increase of information awareness contributes not only to decreasing physical damage to heritage properties, but also increases the participation of the various stakeholders in the heritage monitoring, conservation, and management process.

6. Tools for increasing the capacity of site-managers

- 6.1. Mobilization of “heritage monitors” or “heritage alert volunteers”
- 6.2. Inventorying and documentation
- 6.3. Maps and GIS -
 - (i) experts meeting
 - (ii) software development specific to World Heritage, negotiate with software companies
 - (iii) reprint 2nd version of GIS manual-translations, on-line version
 - (iv) training of focal points at national and sub-regional level standard indices

7. Questionnaire

- 7.1. Suggestions for improvement of the Questionnaire for the next Periodic Reporting Exercise 6 years from now. –avoid redundancy.
- 7.2. Separate reports for Section II for cluster nomination sites or large scale sites (eg. Kathmandu Valley, Angkor, cultural World Heritage properties in Thailand)
- 7.3. Section I – preferable to integrate both nature and culture-following spirit of the Convention and Article 5 of the Convention, which refers to the protection of heritage within the planning programmes within each State Party.